

EXPLORE STUHT'S CELLAR

Employees of Water Company Hunt After Unauthorized Connections.

FIRST THEY CONQUER A BARRICADE

Then They Dislodge a False Pier, Find Secret Tap of Main Hidden There and the House Doesn't Fall as Threatened.

Herr Ernest Stuhl barricaded himself in his feudal castle yesterday afternoon and refused to admit employees of the water company, who are anxious to inspect the plumbing in the cellars of the Union hotel at Eleventh and Mason streets.

"If you enter you enter at your peril!" was the warning of the man who ties his hair with a blue ribbon.

Chairs were piled against the doors and from behind the Cassius M. Clay break works the lord of all he surveyed warned the minions of the water company to keep at a respectful distance.

The bluff was good. It was not called until Sheriff Power and two deputies arrived and reinforced the water men. Before the sheriff arrived a crowd had gathered in the streets. Travelers came from the railway stations to see the excitement.

"It reminds me of Alexander Kliese, the king of Taney county," a fat-faced Missourian remarked.

"Has he passed with his child wife?" was the first question of a visitor from the famous blue-grass state. "Why, don't they let the old man do as he pleases?"

Herr Stuhl is not as tractable as a man of his years is sometimes expected to be. Judge Dickinson instructed him to give the water company entrance to his premises.

The court held that under the contract entered into by the ex-councilman and the water company the employees of the company should have access to all pipes and water connections on the Stuhl property.

But the owner of the Union hotel has recently established a water company of his own. He has a great dislike for monopoly. It was obvious to him to have his baronial castle entered by representatives of a corporation until the sheriff appeared.

Cellar Keys Are Lost.

After he had admitted the water company's men to the Union hotel he discovered that he had lost the keys to the cellar.

"Everything is all right down there, anyway," he remarked in his nonchalant way, after making a vain search through the hotel for the lost keys.

But Superintendent Hunt of the water company has Missouri blood in his veins and would not be headed off. Finally the keys were found.

A pipe leading across the cellar and around the meter was uncovered. It looked as though it had been cut recently and was bright on one end. The other end was lost under what seemed to be a pier.

Mr. Hunt examined this critically and gave it a kick. If he had stepped on Mr. Stuhl's pet corn the outburst would not have been more pronounced.

"Don't do that," don't bring the building down on you!" he exclaimed.

Mr. Hunt didn't believe himself a Samson and continued his investigations.

The pier moved. It was made with new cement and was not yet dry. Mr. Hunt pried a board from the false pier and brought to light a little square box, in which was concealed a stopcock that controlled the water supply in the mysterious pipe.

Denies Subsequent Proceedings.

Mr. Stuhl did not care to remain with the investigators any longer. He went upstairs.

Before the men entered the cellar they discovered a pipe in the street which led to the curbing in front of the Union hotel.

Mr. Stuhl is at a loss to explain the mysterious pipe in his cellar. "I don't know how it got there," he said. "It must have been there when the contractors turned the house over to me, for the plumbing has not been changed since that time."

"This connection is what we expected to find after we severed the pipe which led through the meter and found that the water supply was not shut off," said Manager Hunt of the water company. "This is the second connection we have discovered which was made without our knowledge."

'Tis Easy to Feel Good.

Countless thousands have found a blessing to the body in Dr. King's New Life Pills, which positively cure constipation, sick headache, dizziness, jaundice, malaria, fever and ague and all liver and stomach troubles. Purely vegetable, never grips or weakens. Only 25c at Kuhn & Co.'s drug store.

BIDS WILL SOON BE OVER

Monday Noon Is the Last Call for Advances on Auditorium Bricks.

Monday, April 22, at 12 o'clock noon, the Auditorium committee will cease receiving advance bids on auditorium bricks and after that time all persons desiring certain numbers will have to make their wants known at the Elks' benefit Monday or Tuesday night.

The rush to secure bids on numbers is in excess of all expectations. Hundreds of bricks will be put up at auction at the Elks' benefit, the committee having decided to place on public sale every brick upon which an advance offer has been made, thus giving every person an opportunity to secure each brick in the series except those reserved as prizes.

One of the most popular bricks is No. 777, the number of Ak-Sar-Ben. Four bids of \$7.77 each have been received for this brick, and it will be one of the first offered Monday night.

There will be a really exciting contest for brick No. 13. The original offer for the brick having been raised from \$13 to \$15, the first bidder announces that he will have that brick if it costs him thirteen eagles to get it. Brick 1166, the number of the Royal Arcanum, is at a high premium at this time, as is also brick No. 39, the number of the local lodge of the Elks.

There are demands for nearly all of the bricks numbered from 1840 to 1901, inclusive, the numbers being the years of birth of the applicants. A bid of \$29 has been received for brick 9999.

The committee is considering the matter of securing a silver-mounted rabbit's foot to be given to the person buying brick 13, to ward off the fatality of that alleged unfortunate number.

At the close of the auction Thursday night all bricks will be placed on sale without reserve at \$1 each and persons desiring to secure a certain number will have about one chance in 20,000 of getting it.

AFTERMATH OF EXPOSITION

Auction Sale on Wednesday Night Will Close the Enterprise.

The work of closing out the goods left on hand at the Industrial exposition has progressed very rapidly during the past week and the final chapter will be written as an auction sale Wednesday night.

A great deal of the goods have been sold in bulk to the retail grocers and jobbers, while other sales have been made to private parties during the week. There remains, however, yet unsold, about \$600 worth of groceries and canned goods, and furniture, dry goods, pictures, stoves, sewing machines, bicycles, decorated china, nickel-plated copper goods, violins and miscellaneous articles worth several hundred dollars more, to be closed out to the highest bidder.

Superintendent Gillan and the promotion committee hope to make a complete cleanup before the end of the week. The lumber used in building booths and the fire escape will also be offered for sale on Tuesday.

A part of this lumber will be transferred to the music festival committee, to be used in preparing for the June festival, but the rest will be sold to the highest bidder. The superintendent said last night that if the goods to be offered at auction brought anything like their real value the exposition will net about \$3,500 in cash and the \$1,000 Kimball plan.

LAST OF TEACHERS' COURSE

Blatchford Kavanaugh and Roney's Boys at Closing Entertainment.

Blatchford Kavanaugh and "Roney's Boys" have been secured for the last entertainment in the public school teachers' lecture course. The music lovers of Omaha will remember the sweet voice of the boy Blatchford Kavanaugh, and his singing now as a man, with a pleasing baritone voice, is just as attractive. Besides this favorite, one of Roney's boys is Master Harry Cockrell, an Omaha lad who gives promise of making as fine a singer as Kavanaugh. Mr. Roney has an unusual gift as a choir-master and in training boyish voices. Grace Episcopal choir of Chicago had national reputation during the years he was in charge, and he has achieved quite as marked success with his boys in public concerts. The company appears at the Boyd Theater evening, April 25.

Best Way to Cure Backache.

Backaches are caused by disorder in the kidneys. Foley's Kidney Cure will make the kidneys right. Take no substitute.

NOW COMES THE BIG SHOW

Arrangements for the Elks Charity Benefit Are Completed.

DEMAND FOR TICKETS IS ENORMOUS

Elaborate Program Including a Little of Everything that is Good is Rehearsed to the Point of Perfection.

The annual charity benefit of the Omaha Elks will be held Monday and Tuesday nights at Boyd's theater. It promises to surpass all previous efforts, both in point of merit and in attendance. Long and careful rehearsal has been in progress by the fifty people who will take part in the performance and the program will move without a hitch.

Funny songs, beautiful ballads, pretty dances, local gems and a big chorus of fifty voices will be among the features of the entertainment. The talent has been recruited from the ranks of the Elks and from the best local talent outside the ranks of the men who wear the horns.

From the advance sale of tickets it is a certainty that the attendance will be record-breaking. Choice seats for the first night were disposed of shortly after the sale began Friday morning. It is improbable that there will be a vacant seat in the theater on either night of the performance.

The program will open with a minstrel first-part. J. H. McDonald will be the interlocutor and the end men will be Willie Todd, Ed P. Mullen, Al Barker, Christ Camp, Jake Rosenthal and F. E. Barnes. A choice assortment of local jokes will be sprung by the fun-makers. There will be any number of late songs. The vocal contributors to the first part will be Christ Camp, Joseph Doyle, Ed Mullen, Al Barker, Howard F. Striker, Jake Rosenthal, Jo F. Barton, Willis Todd and Misses Lena Ellsworth, Lillian Himesley, Hazel Wahl and Messrs. Rosenthal and Mullen. Miss Pearl Riley and a little tot will sing "Just Cuddle in My Arms and Go to Sleep." "My Charcoal Charming" will be sung by Miss Juliette Lange and a chorus of young ladies.

The "T. K." quartet, composed of A. L. Rusk, first tenor; Charles H. Gratton, second tenor; Lee G. Gratz, first bass, and Jo F. Barton, second bass, will sing a number of selections.

The closing piece will be a humorous comic opera burlesque, entitled "Hill (Treated) Trotter." During its progress a number of clever songs and specialties will be introduced by members of the company. Those who will take part in the burlesque are Messrs. Ed Shipley, McLarty, W. F. Stoecker, Willis Todd, Spud Parrish, Moses P. O'Brien, Ed Mullen and Misses Beatrice Moore, Cora Hitchcock, Lillian Himesley, Genevieve Blanchard, Virginia Merges, Hazel Wahl, Florence Hardy, Juliette Lange, Cecelia Farrell, Hazel Beard, Julia Streitz, Edith Stevens, Pearl Mackay, Fae Weible, Marie Snowden, Pearl L. Riley, Bessie Taylor and Lena Ellsworth.

Auditorium Bricks on Sale.

During the intermission the Omaha auditorium bricks will be placed on sale for the first time. There promises to be a lively bidding for many of the numbers.

An olio of specialties will be the second part. "My Geisha from Tokio" will be the feature of the olio. Just what this specialty is has been kept a secret and will remain so until Monday night. "An Innocent Young Maid," a topical song and chorus will be sung by Misses Cora Hitchcock, Lillian Himesley, Hazel Wahl and Messrs. Rosenthal and Mullen. Miss Pearl Riley and a little tot will sing "Just Cuddle in My Arms and Go to Sleep." "My Charcoal Charming" will be sung by Miss Juliette Lange and a chorus of young ladies.

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OVERCOME IN LONG TUNNEL

J. M. McDonald Suffocates in the Great Northern's Cascade Passageway.

WELVE OTHER MEN ALSO PROSTRATED

These Are Hurried to Open Air and Revived, and McDonald Dies—Third Fatality in same Place.

SPOKANE, Wash., April 20.—A special to the Chronicle from Wellington, Wash., says: "J. M. McDonald was suffocated to death and twelve overcome by smoke gas in the Great Northern Cascade tunnel. The men belonged to a section gang working in the tunnel and were found by a trackwalker an hour after a freight train had passed through. McDonald was lying in a pool of water. The other men recovered after being brought out on a special engine sent to rescue them. This is the third fatal accident in the tunnel.

FIRST PRIZE AGAIN TO OMAHA

John A. Bennewitz of Creighton Wins in Competition Against Several Cities.

For the third time in seven years Creighton university has landed the first prize in the intercollegiate English contest. John A. Bennewitz won the \$75 cash prize offered for the best essay on "Greatness A. Brownson as a Patriot."

The contest is open to seniors, juniors and sophomores in colleges at St. Louis, Chicago, Cincinnati, Detroit, Milwaukee, St. Mary's (Kansas) and Omaha. Several hundred students contested for the prize and Mr. Bennewitz has given a great honor to himself and on Creighton university in winning this distinction.

In each school all contestants who desired to write essays were assigned the subject and wrote their papers within six hours. They were not allowed to see reference books. Three essays were selected by the faculty of each school and submitted to judges who made the final decision.

Good for Rheumatism.

Last fall I was taken with a very severe attack of muscular rheumatism which caused me great pain and annoyance. After trying several prescriptions and rheumatic cures, I decided to use Chamberlain's Pain Balm, which I had seen advertised in the South Jerseyman. After two applications of this Remedy I was much better, and after using one bottle, was completely cured.

—Sallie Harris, Salem, N. J.

Fashions for the Season

Hints by Mary Lamb.

It is understood that the plan of erecting an opera house here has been abandoned for the time. Robert Plunkett of England, who owns considerable property here, has given up his intention of erecting a theater in this city and nothing now towards raising a bonus will be done by those who were at first interested in the project.

Maize City Gossip.

Miss Mary Mann is in Iowa visiting friends.

Good office rooms, Glasgow block. See persons.

Storage for stoves and merchandise. G. H. Brewer.

Elmer E. Ridgeway is soon to remove to St. Joseph, Mo.

All of the banks will be closed on Monday, as it is Arbor day.

W. H. Johnson and family will move to Neligh, Neb., this week.

M. Mahery is confined to his home with an attack of rheumatism.

Revival services will be held all day at the Methodist church today.

Applications for street fair concessions are coming in every day.

J. F. Wood and wife of Albany, Mo., are the guests of Al Hunter and wife.

Mrs. J. W. Jordan intends spending a few weeks in Lincoln with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Watkins entertained a company of friends Friday evening.

There will be a special music at the services at the Methodist church today.

Dr. James Kelly stated yesterday that Prof. Meicher was now out of danger.

Evangelist McGee will preach at the Methodist church at 11 o'clock today.

Hespan lodge of Omaha entertained the lodge of Odd Fellows last night.

Graduates working on K street, between Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth streets.

Andy Farrar of the Hammond company is about to move to South Dakota this week.

The Omaha Gas company is laying mains on Twenty-third street, from A to B streets.

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Laverty, 162 North Twenty-sixth street, report the birth of a son.

Just now the city is full of toughs who have been driven out of the lower river towns.

Mary W. Cox has purchased the H. E. Slade residence at Twenty-third and B streets.

Employees of the Union Stock Yards Relief association will give a ball at the Exchange on May 3.

Tom Bronner's house, at Seventeenth and N streets, was burned to the ground yesterday morning.

OVERCOME IN LONG TUNNEL

J. M. McDonald Suffocates in the Great Northern's Cascade Passageway.

WELVE OTHER MEN ALSO PROSTRATED

These Are Hurried to Open Air and Revived, and McDonald Dies—Third Fatality in same Place.

SPOKANE, Wash., April 20.—A special to the Chronicle from Wellington, Wash., says: "J. M. McDonald was suffocated to death and twelve overcome by smoke gas in the Great Northern Cascade tunnel. The men belonged to a section gang working in the tunnel and were found by a trackwalker an hour after a freight train had passed through. McDonald was lying in a pool of water. The other men recovered after being brought